

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 03932 142221Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /022 W  
-----150111Z 068847 /66

R 142200Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4715

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 3932

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINR EC  
SUBJ: GUSTAVO RUALES: NEW UNDERSECRETARY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS

1. AMBASSADOR GUSTAVO RUALES VIEL, A CAREER DIPLOMAT, WAS APPOINTED UNDERSECRETARY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS JUNE 13. HE REPLACES JOSE AYALA LASSO WHO WAS NAMED FOREIGN MINISTER. RUALES HAD BEEN SERVING SINCE 1975 AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLITICAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY (#2 POSITION IN MINISTRY) WHEN HIS APPOINTMENT WAS ANNOUNCED. THOUGH CONSIDERED A COMPETENT DIPLOMAT, RUALES' FOREIGN SERVICE EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN LIMITED TO LATIN AMERICA WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A TWO-YEAR TOUR IN 1968 IN ITALY. HE HAS SERVED A TOTAL OF FIFTEEN YEARS IN SUCH POSTS AS MEXICO, CUBA, CHILE, COLOMBIA, PARAGUAY, AND ARGENTINA. HIS MOST RECENT CONTACT WITH THE UNITED STATES WAS AS A MEMBER OF THE ECUADOREAN DELEGATION TO THE 31ST UNGA IN JUNE 1976. IN ADDITION TO HIS FOREIGN POSTS, RUALES HAS HAD ASSIGNMENTS IN THE MINISTRY, SERVING AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE (1974). IN 1968 HE SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF THE ECUADOREAN TOURISM CORPORATION.

2. RUALES IS CONSIDERED BY THE EMBASSY AND HIS COLLEAGUES TO BE VERY CAPABLE. HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN QUIETLY FRIENDLY AND RECEPTIVE TO EMBOFFS, EVEN WHEN HE CANNOT BE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL. AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLITICAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, RUALES HAS APPEARED SOMEWHAT LESS SUSPICIOUS OF US MOTIVES THAN MANY OF HIS COLLEAGUES, AND MORE OPEN-MINDED  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 QUITO 03932 142221Z

ABOUT SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS. HAVING SPENT THE OVERWHELMING PART OF HIS CAREER IN LATIN AMERICA, RUALES CAN BE NAIVE CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL POLITICS. RUALES ENJOYS A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH AYALA BUT GIVEN AYALA'S EXPERIENCE AND PERSONALITY, IT MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR RUALES TO ASSERT HIMSELF AS AN INDEPENDENT INFLUENCE.

3. RUALES WAS BORN IN QUITO IN AUGUST 1931. HE ATTENDED CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY IN QUITO AND OBTAINED AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE. HE IS A WIDOWER WITH FOUR CHILDREN. ALTHOUGH HE IS A GOOD COMPANION WITH A QUIET, BUT INCISIVE SENSE OF HUMOR, HE IS RATHER SHY AND RETIRING SOCIALLY. HIS ENGLISH IS LIMITED.  
CORR

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, MINISTERS (DIPLOMATS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 14-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977QUITO03932  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770212-1046  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** QUITO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770659/aaaabzly.tel  
**Line Count:** 69  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 5dc5417d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2157762  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GUSTAVO RUALES: NEW UNDERSECRETARY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** PINR, EC, (RUALES, GUSTAVO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/5dc5417d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009